

January 20, 1998

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor Elaine M. Scruggs, Glendale, Chairman

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 28, 1998

MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room (see enclosed map)

302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

MAG Office, Suite 300

Please park in the garage under the Norwest Bank Building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

The next Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a progressive dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG offices on the 3rd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
January 28, 1998**

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

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| <p>1. <u>Call to Order</u></p> <p>2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u></p> <p>3. <u>Approval of December 3, 1998 Meeting Minutes</u></p> <p>4. <u>Call to the Audience</u></p> <p>An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council for items that are not included on the agenda. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit.</p> <p>5. <u>Showcased Agency Introduction</u></p> <p>As part of the MAG restructuring effort, an opportunity is provided for a MAG member agency to showcase its community. The City of Avondale will be featured at this meeting.</p> <p>6. <u>Executive Director's Report</u></p> <p>The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.</p> <p>7. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u></p> <p>Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.</p> | <p>3. Review and approve December 3, 1997 meeting minutes.</p> <p>4. For information.</p> <p>5. For information and discussion.</p> <p>6. For information and discussion.</p> <p>7. For information, discussion and approval of the Consent Agenda.</p> |
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*** ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT****TRANSPORTATION ITEM*****8. Short Range Transit Plan**

The Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) is prepared and updated annually by Regional Public Transportation Authority for the Maricopa Association of Governments. The plan's contents include an overview of the performance and operating characteristics of the public transit services provided in Maricopa County. The process for plan formulation included RPTA staff contacting each MAG member agency during the plan's development in an attempt to develop an accurate and complete plan. Assistance provided by RPTA staff depends primarily on the status of each individual local plan. Some local governments had already developed local plans, while others were assisted with technical staff support including community involvement activities. This year's plan has been restructured significantly from past editions. Last year, the Management Committee and Regional Council directed that, this edition include a new section that summarizes local transit plans on a jurisdictional basis in both a committed and planned mode. The Management Committee recommended approval of the Short Range Transit Plan. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*8. For information, discussion and approval of the Short Range Transit Plan contingent upon a finding of conformity by MAG of the TIP with the applicable state and Federal air quality implementation plans.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD**TRANSPORTATION ITEMS****9. ADOT Tentative Life Cycle Program and Long Range Plan for the MAG Freeway System**

Each January, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) prepares the Tentative Life Cycle Program for public review and comment. The Program provides the detailed plan for the design and construction of the MAG Freeway Plan. The Tentative Life Cycle Program incorporates revenues and costs that ADOT has revised from previous plans. The priorities for the period 1997-2006 have been incorporated into the Tentative Life Cycle Program. The priorities for the period 2007-2115 have been incorporated into the Long Range Plan. The Tentative Program and Long Range Plan are

9. For information, discussion and acceptance of the ADOT Tentative Life Cycle Program and Long Range Plan for the MAG Freeway System for public review and comment.

scheduled to be presented at the annual hearings conducted in February. This is a joint meeting of the State Transportation Board, the Regional Public Transportation Authority Board, the MAG Regional Council, and the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee. The Management Committee recommended approval of the Tentative Program and Long Range Plan. Please refer to the enclosed material.

10. Requested FY 1998 Changes to the MAG Freeway Program

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has requested a series of changes to the 1998 MAG Freeway Program. These changes are a direct result of the annual update process that includes revised construction and right-of-way costs and the preparation of a new Tentative Life Cycle Program for 1999 to 2006. The changes represent a cost increase of \$31.5 million which include \$22.8 million in higher right-of-way costs for 1998. Minor schedule changes are also included to improve efficiencies. The start date for the Pima Road to Shea Boulevard segment of the Pima Freeway is being accelerated by eight (8) months to accommodate the longer construction schedule without significant delays in the completion date for this segment. The Management Committee recommended approval of the changes. Please refer to the enclosed material.

11. Requested Change to the MAG Freeway Program-Superstition Freeway Auxiliary Lane

In November, the Management Committee reviewed a request by the Arizona Department of Transportation to add a project to the 1998 Life Cycle Regional Freeway Program. The request was tabled to allow for additional time to examine the length of the project and potential cost. Since the November Management Committee meeting, the ADOT District Engineer made a presentation on the request to the Transportation Review Committee. The ADOT District Engineer presented information regarding the request for an auxiliary lane extension of the 101 to US 60 ramp to relieve congestion. He noted that US 60 has already been re-striped to accommodate an additional lane between the 101 on ramp and Country Club Drive exit. This project would facilitate opening an additional lane on the ramp by

10. For information, discussion and approval of the requested changes to the 1998 MAG Freeway Program.

11. For information, discussion and approval to provide \$1,365,000 for the design and construction of the auxiliary lane at the end of the southbound to eastbound ramp of the traffic interchange of the Price and Superstition Freeways contingent upon the required air quality conformity actions being completed.

providing an auxiliary lane extension to the Alma School Road exit. ADOT is requesting Regional Area Road Funds in the amount of \$75,000 for design and \$1,290,000 for construction of the auxiliary lane. The Management Committee recommended approval of the ADOT request. Please refer to the enclosed material.

12. Potential High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lane Study

In October, the City of Mesa requested that MAG and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), work cooperatively on a regional High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lane study. On October 29, 1997, the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee considered this request and expressed concern that HOT lanes be discussed from a policy perspective before any study is done. It was determined that a policy discussion needs to occur on the concept of HOT lane study and that it be scheduled for a future Regional Council meeting. Staff is recommending that MAG participate with ADOT in a region-wide HOT Lane Study and that an application for funding the Study be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration. Also that the study include sampling public opinion regarding possible implementation of the project. The Management Committee recommended approval of the study. Please refer to the enclosed material.

13. Arizona High Speed Rail Feasibility Study

The Arizona Department of Transportation is currently conducting a high speed rail feasibility study for the Phoenix-Tucson corridor. The study is being prepared by Kimley-Horn Associates, guided by a Rail Task Force as well as a Rail Steering Committee, and managed by ADOT staff. MAG is represented on and provides input to both committees through its Executive Director, James Bourey. A no build, four rail alternatives and a highway widening alternative have been developed and are currently being evaluated. While the rail corridors are designed to serve the entire MAG region, they pass through Phoenix, Tempe, Mesa, Gilbert and Chandler. Due to the potential impact on communities, MAG staff has recommended that the Regional Council be briefed on the study. The study recommendations will likely be developed in February and March 1998. Please refer to the enclosed material.

12. For information, discussion and approval that MAG participate with ADOT in a region-wide HOT Lane Study and that an application for funding the Study be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration. Also that the study include sampling public opinion regarding possible implementation of the project and that results of the study be returned to the Regional Council for consideration.

13. For information, discussion and input to the Arizona Department of Transportation.

14. Air Quality Update

On December 3, 1997, the MAG Regional Council approved submittal of the PM-10 Serious Area Committed Control Measures and Support Technical Analysis to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In order to be granted up to a five-year extension of the PM-10 attainment date, the PM-10 plan is required to include the most stringent measures in State plans, or in practice in any other state. The measures need to be feasible for this area. Sierra Research, a MAG Consultant, is preparing material on this issue. This information will be presented at the Regional Council meeting.

A status report on the I/M 240 test cutpoints will also be presented at the Regional Council meeting. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality has been evaluating the EPA model which is used for developing Carbon Monoxide (CO) Plan credits for I/M 240. This may affect the need for additional CO Plan measures.

Staff will also report on the Governor's Air Quality Strategies Task Force that was established by Governor Jane Dee Hull in November 1997. Several meetings of the task force and subcommittees were held during November and December 1997 and in early January 1998. Please refer to the enclosed material.

14. For information and discussion.

GENERAL ITEM15. Preparations for Census 2000

The decennial census of the population will be undertaken on April 1, 2000. In January 1998, the Census Bureau will forward maps to local jurisdictions and request changes to municipal boundaries through its Boundary and Annexation Survey. In March 1998, the Census Bureau will provide maps to local jurisdictions and request recommendations on revising census geographical boundaries through its Statistical Areas Program. In April 1998, the Census Bureau will forward local jurisdictions a list of addresses within their corporate limits for verification through the Local Update of Census Addresses Program. This address list will be used to distribute census questionnaires. It is estimated that each housing unit counted represents \$10,000 in federal and state funds to local governments during the decade

15. For information and discussion.

following the Census. For this reason it is crucial that MAG member agencies plan for Census 2000 and allocate adequate staff and financial resources to work in partnership with MAG staff and the Census Bureau. Please refer to the enclosed material.

16. Region 2025 Vision Update

Staff will provide an update on the Region 2025 Vision Committee. The Committee held its organizational meeting on January 8, 1998. A brief video has been produced that provides various viewpoints on the need for planning our future. This video will be presented to the Regional Council.

16. For information and discussion.